

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A capsule endoscope system comprising:
a capsule endoscope, of which movement is controlled by a magnetic field externally applied;
at least one magnetic-field generating means for generating a magnetic field focused on one point to control the movement of the capsule endoscope travelling in a body cavity of a subject lying down on an examination table; and
moving means for moving the examination table relative to the magnetic-field generating means.
2. The capsule endoscope system according to Claim 1, wherein a magnetic-field generating member is arranged in at least one portion of the capsule endoscope.
3. The capsule endoscope system according to Claim 2, wherein the magnetic-field generating member includes a magnetic material.
4. The capsule endoscope system according to Claim 3, wherein the magnetic material includes a hard magnetic material.
5. The capsule endoscope system according to Claim 3,

wherein the magnetic material includes a soft magnetic material.

6. The capsule endoscope system according to Claim 2, wherein the magnetic-field generating member includes a magnetic coil arranged in the interior of the capsule endoscope.

7. The capsule endoscope system according to Claim 6, wherein

a plurality of magnetic coils are arranged in the capsule endoscope, and

a current is selectively supplied to at least one of the magnetic coils in a time series manner.

8. The capsule endoscope system according to Claim 1, wherein the magnetic-field generating means electrically generates a magnetic field such that the magnetic field is controllable.

9. The capsule endoscope system according to Claim 8, wherein the magnetic-field generating means is controlled such that a magnetic field is intermittently applied.

10. The capsule endoscope system according to Claim 9, wherein the magnetic field, generated by the magnetic-field

generating means, includes an alternating magnetic field.

11. The capsule endoscope system according to Claim 1, wherein the magnetic-field generating means are arranged in both sides of the subject to apply magnetic fields to the subject from both the sides.

12. The capsule endoscope system according to Claim 1, wherein the magnetic-field generating means are arranged above and below of the subject to apply magnetic fields to the subject from above and below.

13. The capsule endoscope system according to Claim 1, wherein the magnetic-field generating means applies a magnetic field to the subject so as to surround the subject.

14. The capsule endoscope system according to Claim 1, wherein after observation of a region through the capsule endoscope, the application of the magnetic field generated by the magnetic-field generating means is interrupted.

15. The capsule endoscope system according to Claim 1, wherein the moving means moves the examination table relative to the magnetic-field generating means to guide the capsule endoscope from the mouth or anus of the subject to

an object region to be observed.

16. The capsule endoscope system according to Claim 1, wherein the moving means moves the examination table relative to the magnetic-field generating means to remove the capsule endoscope from the mouth or anus of the subject.

17. The capsule endoscope system according to Claim 1, further comprising:

a display device for displaying the position of the capsule endoscope.